IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A hydrogen storage alloy, which is a hydrogen storage alloy having phase conversion accompanying the variation of hydrogen storage capacity (H/M), and is in a single phase or in a state close to a single phase when said hydrogen storage capacity (H/M) is in a range of 0.3 to 0.7.

2. (Original) The hydrogen storage alloy as recited in Claim 1, wherein said hydrogen storage capacity (H/M) is in a range of 0.4 to 0.6.

3. (Original) The hydrogen storage alloy as recited in Claim 2, wherein the ratio ($R\beta_{0.4}/R\beta_{0.6}$) of the proportion of β phase at a hydrogen storage capacity (H/M) of 0.4 ($R\beta_{0.4}$) with respect to the proportion of β phase at a hydrogen storage capacity (H/M) of 0.6 ($R\beta_{0.6}$) is not less than 0.6.

4. (Currently amended) The hydrogen storage alloy as recited in ~~any of Claims 1 to 3~~ Claim 1, used in a negative electrode of a nickel-metal hydride secondary battery for electric vehicle and hybrid electric vehicle use, and for high-power use.

5. (New) The hydrogen storage alloy as recited in Claim 2, used in a negative electrode of a nickel-metal hydride secondary battery for electric vehicle and hybrid electric vehicle use, and for high-power use.

6. (New) The hydrogen storage alloy as recited in Claim 3, used in a negative electrode of a nickel-metal hydride secondary battery for electric vehicle and hybrid electric vehicle use, and for high-power use.